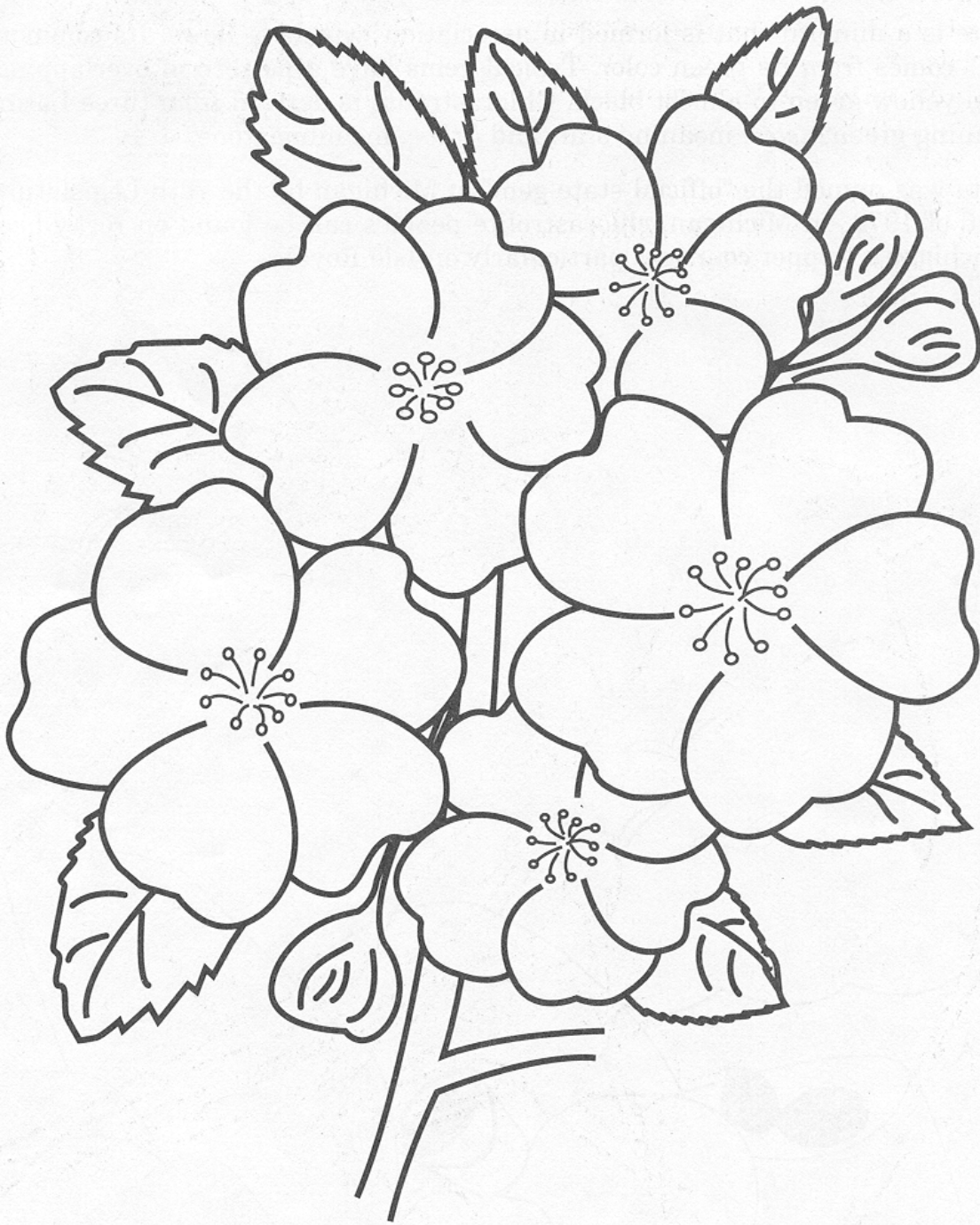


# The State Flower

"Apple Blossom"



The apple blossom, the symbol of springtime beauty and the bounty of Michigan's orchards and agricultural lands, has been the official State Flower since its adoption April 28, 1897, by the Legislature. The resolution said that "a refined sentiment seems to call for the adoption of a State Flower ." It continued: "Our blossoming apple trees add much to the beauty of our landscape, and Michigan apples have gained a worldwide reputation. At least one of the most fragrant and beautiful species of apple, the *Pyrus coronaria*, is native to our state." Michigan has been one of

the leading producers of apples and apple products since those early days.